

AM & PM SESSIONS

W – Exploring Oral Reading

Oral reading is an important technique for developing comprehension, increasing vocabulary, sharing information and discovering effective reading strategies. Participants will explore the many purposes for oral reading and the appropriate ways to incorporate oral reading in the classroom. Workshop activities include engaging in a specific comprehension strategy supported by oral reading. This session is appropriate for teachers of grades 2-3.

*Presented by:* ..... Ann Beirs  
OEL Reading Coach

X – Narrative Writing

Participants will try specific and varied techniques for teaching narrative writing. The session will include genre exploration and tools writers utilize to keep their readers interested from start to finish. Second and third grade teachers are encouraged to attend.

*Presented by:* ..... Kristin Rainville  
OEL Reading Coach

Y – Fluency: Targeting Special Education Needs

Participants will acquire a full understanding of fluency and its relation to automaticity by discovering ways to detect a non-fluent reader and in turn, use specific strategies for intervention. This interactive session will provide attendees with fun, hands-on teaching strategies that can be implemented in a mainstreamed, resource or self-contained setting. Kindergarten to third grade teachers are encouraged to attend.

*Presented by:* ..... Cynthia Castello-Bratteson  
OEL Reading Coach  
with Stephanie Mariani and Josh Zuckerman, Second Grade Teachers, Highlands Elementary School

Z – Using Graphic Organizers to Foster Reading Comprehension

This session will demonstrate the use of graphic organizers in a literary genre study. Participants will match specific organizers to appropriate literary texts. This session is designed for teachers of grades 1-3.

*Presented by:* ..... Marsha Shapiro  
OEL Reading Coach

*For further information, please contact:*  
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NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
AND  
NJ SCHOOLS

The Second Annual  
Reading Coach  
Conference  
May 24, 2004

Rutgers University  
New Brunswick, New Jersey

Side by Side:  
Working Together  
to Improve  
Literacy Instruction



EARLY LITERACY



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
DIVISION OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND ASSESSMENT  
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JAMES E. MCGREEVEY  
Governor

WILLIAM L. LIBRERA  
Commissioner

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The Office of Early Literacy plans and implements programs as a part of Governor McGreevey’s Early Literacy Initiative dedicated to all children reading well by the end of third grade. The Reading Coach Program is the primary vehicle by which the office seeks to fulfill this goal. Reading coaches work in schools throughout the state, providing kindergarten through third grade teachers with the opportunity to work “side by side” with a colleague in the implementation of best practices in literacy instruction. Reading coaches provide demonstration lessons in the classrooms, engage in collaborative planning and lessons with teachers, conduct workshops, and offer one-on-one and/or study group support and guidance for effective teaching.

Additionally, the Office of Early Literacy conducts professional development workshops for schools which do not receive a full-time reading coach. Through this initiative, many schools throughout the state have the opportunity to attend workshops, at no cost, and then receive follow-up from a reading coach regarding specific literacy topics presented. This past year’s topics focused on: assessment to inform instruction, flexible grouping and literacy centers.

The Office of Early Literacy works cooperatively with other literacy initiatives within the Department of Education such as Reading First, Urban Literacy and Early Childhood Education.

Co-Directors:  
Shannon Riley-Ayers, Ph.D. and Gail L. Robinson

Lead Coaches:  
Adrienne M. Brown  
Kedra Gamble  
Colleen Gray  
Joanne Hozeny  
Maqueda Randall-Weeks  
Nicole West-Burns, Ph.D.

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Q – Building Student Fluency

This session will introduce a variety of techniques from which teachers can build students’ fluency: Readers Theatre, choral readings, poetry and learning centers. Teachers will learn to utilize tape recorded readings along with fluency rubrics as a means of assessment in this area. Grades 1-3 teachers are encouraged to attend.

Presented by: .....Marie Ortega and Judith Schwartz  
OEL Reading Coaches

R – Running Records: Observing Student Reading Behaviors

An effective teacher must be an effective observer of students. Running Records are an excellent way for teachers to assess student reading behaviors and use that information to inform instruction. Participants will learn the reasons and rationale for using running records, and will record, score, and interpret running records using a live, oral read. This session is appropriate for teachers and administrators of K-2.

Presented by: ..... Leah Maloy and Marcella Nazzario  
OEL Reading Coaches

S – Word Study: Working with Words

This workshop will focus on activities to help students improve recognition of letter sounds, increase sight vocabulary, develop phonemic awareness, and use patterns to read and spell words. This workshop is based on Patricia Cunningham’s “Working with Words”, a component of the 4-Blocks literacy model.

Presented by: .....Renee Bannister and Margaret Yeackel  
OEL Reading Coaches

T – Writing Process: Creating a Story with "Clustering"

This session will present the writing process using a strategy called, "clustering", which allows the writer to organize ideas for story creating and writing. Participants will brainstorm several story possibilities from a picture prompt and will actively engage in "clustering" to develop a story. Most appropriate for grades 2-3.

Presented by: .....Iris Klein and Carolyn Watford-Marcellus  
OEL Reading Coaches

U – Going Beyond Who? What? Where? and When?

This presentation is designed to encourage and inform educators on how to ask meaningful questions about text —questions that go beyond the literal level. Participants will utilize the information presented by engaging in discussions and activities designed to illustrate the many uses of questioning across grade levels and areas of the curriculum. This workshop is appropriate for all grades.

Presented by: .....Kathleen Spence  
OEL Reading Coach

V – Implementing a Writing Program in a First Grade Classroom

This workshop will provide detailed instruction and examples of a developmentally appropriate writing program in a first grade classroom. This session highlights the collaborative work of the reading coach and the teacher. Topics to be shared include: choosing the classroom organization, incorporating writing throughout the daily curriculum, and introducing writer’s workshop. Participants will create their own writing folder, brainstorm a list of appropriate mini-lessons, and examine some children’s literature that provides writing prompts on a variety of themes.

Presented by: .....Susan Esposito  
OEL Reading Coach  
with Lori Kernan, First Grade Teacher, Central Elementary School



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K – Comprehension: 2nd and 3rd Grades

The National Reading Panel has described comprehension as the "reason for reading." This workshop will focus on research-based comprehension strategies with an opportunity for teachers to create hands-on materials that they can utilize in their classroom centers and/or group activities. This interactive session is designed to meet the needs of second and third grade teachers, as well as literacy specialists.

*Presented by:*.....Wendy Amelotte and Deb Weck  
OEL Reading Coaches

L – Reading Strategies for Every Reader

This workshop is designed to provide practical techniques to use in the classroom during guided reading instruction. The focus is to teach every child how to be a proficient reader by developing "good reader" strategies. Participants will experience what a struggling reader endures while trying to read. Grades K-3 teachers are encouraged to attend.

*Presented by:*.....Elizabeth Achenbach and Barbara Mintzer  
OEL Reading Coaches

M – Poetry Writing with Children

This session will teach techniques to introduce poetry while encouraging children to become poets. Participants will discuss poetry as a genre; learn about author studies; and create sample lesson plans. This session is for teachers of second and third grades.

*Presented by:*.....Jessica Anspach and Susan Rovell  
OEL Reading Coaches

N – Fun with Phonemic Awareness and Phonics

This workshop is designed to enhance participants’ understanding of phonemic awareness and phonics instruction. It will focus on fun and engaging techniques that teachers can use right away in their classrooms. This session is for kindergarten teachers.

*Presented by:* .....Megan Repko  
OEL Reading Coach

O – Yes, You Can Do It All: Making the Reading and Writing Connection

During this workshop, participants will explore easy and fun ways to help young children make the reading and writing connection. Through the use of read-alouds, shared reading, interactive writing and shared writing, the presenters will address skills, show how to differentiate instruction and engage participants in a "four corners" activity. Teachers of grades K-3 are encouraged to attend.

*Presented by:*.....Dot Graziano and Teri Riether  
OEL Reading Coaches with Holly Pearson, First Grade Teacher,  
Riverside Elementary and Sue Madsen, Kindergarten Teacher, Tuckerton Elementary

P – Using Informational Text: Strategies for Young Readers

This session will provide teachers with hands-on activities to assist students in becoming reflective and strategic readers of expository text. Participants will engage in think-pair-share activities employing presented text strategies. This session is suited for second and third grade teachers, reading specialists and administrators.

*Presented by:*.....Sharon Dama and Arlene Marty  
OEL Reading Coaches

CONFERENCE AGENDA

8:00 – 9:00	Registration and continental breakfast (Brower Commons)
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome (Brower Commons)
9:30 – 9:45	Move to Scott Hall
9:45 – 11:15	Session I (Scott Hall)
11:15 – 11:30	Move to Brower Commons
11:30 – 12:30	Lunch (Brower Commons)
12:30 – 12:45	Move to Scott Hall
12:45 – 2:15	Session II (Scott Hall)
2:15 – 2:30	Move to auditorium (Scott Hall-room 123)
2:30-3:15	Closing Remarks and Dismissal

AM ONLY SESSIONS

A – Vocabulary Teaching Strategies

This session will discuss ways to teach vocabulary, moving beyond the dictionary. Participants will use grade-appropriate read-aloud texts to experiment with a variety of vocabulary teaching strategies. Kindergarten through third grade teachers are encouraged to attend.

*Presented by:* .....Tracey Lepore and Carla Vandervort  
OEL Reading Coaches

B – Word Study: Phonics, Spelling and Vocabulary, Grades K-1

This presentation will address word study: How to assess students’ spelling and word recognition abilities and plan for effective word study instruction for each stage of student development. This workshop is based on Donald Bear’s word study model as outlined in *Words Their Way*.

*Presented by:* .....Rosa Espinal and Lauren Pope  
OEL Reading Coaches

C – Shared Reading: Incorporating a Balanced Approach in Literacy Learning

Participants will enjoy this interactive session focused on shared reading which will include explicit skill instruction: retelling, comprehension, word and text level skills, and writing. This workshop will show teachers how students can transfer the strategies demonstrated in shared reading to literacy centers. This session is appropriate for K-3 teachers.

*Presented by:* ..... Jane Horn, Reading Specialist, Mt. View School and  
Joan Ricker, Kindergarten Teacher, Phillipsburg Early Childhood Center  
Former OEL Reading Coaches

D – The Quality Classroom: Core Curriculum Content Standards & NJPEP

Participants will engage in hands-on activities to examine the standards/cumulative progress indicators (CPIs) and the development of assessments and questions based on test specifications. Additionally, participants will engage in learning how to access online resources and professional development opportunities by content area. The activities and exercises provided throughout this workshop will parallel those used in classrooms and during planning/evaluating professional development. This workshop is geared to K-3 teachers.

*Presented by:* .....Marcia Ashhurst-Whiting, Ed.D.  
Language Arts Literacy Coordinator, Office of Academic & Professional Standards and  
Dorothy Atkins, Professional Development Specialist, New Jersey Professional Education Port (NJPEP)

E – And Now Presenting..... Readers Theater!

This session will demonstrate how Readers Theater can be used for developing fluency in reading. The main interactive components will include: selecting material, adapting a short story into a script, and performing. Third grade teachers are encouraged to attend.

*Presented by:* .....Bernard Webster  
OEL Reading Coach

PM ONLY SESSIONS

F – Successful Coaching: Creating a Climate for Change

How do you begin successful literacy coaching and coach for lasting results? This presentation will offer you practical and useful tips, shortcuts and suggestions to begin a reading coach program that works. You will receive materials to make you an effective coach. This session is open to principals, reading coaches, reading specialists and supervisors.

*Presented by:* .....Gail Fazio, Reading First Supervisor Linden School District  
Former OEL Reading Coach

G – Writer's Workshop Overview

This session will focus on format, rituals and routines, mini-lessons, writer's craft, and other components necessary for an effective writer's workshop. This session is appropriate for grades K-3 in the beginning implementation phases of writer's workshop.

*Presented by:* .....Birdean Clinton and Christine Garry  
OEL Reading Coaches

H – Favorite Interactive Read-Alouds

This session will review the research supporting read-alouds, and the importance of such in a balanced approach to literacy in all grade levels. A variety of read-alouds and activities will be shared with the participants. All teachers of grades K-2 are encouraged to attend.

*Presented by:* ..... Carole Kurek  
OEL Reading Coach

I – Word Study: Phonics, Spelling and Vocabulary, Grades 2-3

This presentation will address word study: How to assess students’ spelling and word recognition abilities and plan for effective word study instruction for each stage of student development. This workshop is based on Donald Bear’s word study model as outlined in *Words Their Way*.

*Presented by:* .....Andrea Banks-Saunders and Sophia VanEss  
OEL Reading Coaches

J – Connecting the NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards in Reading with Strategies for a First Grade Classroom

This hands-on workshop will demonstrate a multitude of strategies that are designed to be used in a first grade classroom to assist learners in achieving mastery of language arts literacy. Participants will have the opportunity to make words, play word wall games, "guess the covered word", build graphic organizers, and much more. This session is appropriate for first grade teachers and administrators interested in these topics.

*Presented by:* .....Sandra Wilcox  
OEL Reading Coach  
with Kim Garcia, First Grade Teacher, Herma Simmons Elementary School